ANNAN ATHLETIC STIRLING ALBION



cinch League Two, Saturday 20 August, Galabank, 3pm









They say a week can be a long time in football and that'll be the case for Peter Murphy and his side as they wait to try and make amends for last week's defeat against Stirling Albion today.

Last Saturday Annan were undone against a street wise Dumbarton side who clinically put Annan to the sword with four goals from five shots. As Peter Murphy picks through the bones of that defeat he'll have seen signs of encouragement in his side play but like the fans will have been disappointed that they couldn't convert that possession into efforts on goal.

Annan have found life on the road tough in cinch League Two this season, the two defeats have certainly brought a level of realism to the fans on this seasons ambitions after the bar was raised during the Premier Sports TV League Cup Group win.

Today's match against Stirling Albion will offer another tough challenge for the Black and Gold's and they'll be hoping they can deliver a similar performance to that of the 2–1 win over Stenhousemuir. Annan dominated that match and had they been as clinical as Dumbarton were on Saturday then they could've easily been four goals ahead.

As the squad starts to settle in one player that has caught the attention of the Galabank faithful is Benjamin Lussint. The silky French midfielder has settled in well since his move from neighbours Gretna 2008 and a M.O.M performance on his last home outing gave the Annan fans hope that we could we fill the gap left by Owen Moxon's departure to Carlisle United.

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SQUADS

GOALKEEPERS Ethan Mitchell Greg Fleming

DEFENDERS

Charlie Barnes Cameron Williamson Matty Douglas Scott Hooper Max Kilsby Jordan Lowdon Roan Steele Steven Swinglehurst ©

MIDFIELDERS

Dominic Docherty Josh Galloway Benjamin Luisant Lewis Hunter Chris Johnston Owen Moxon Tony Wallace

FORWARDS

Tommy Goss Rob McCartney Aidan Smith Tommy Muir

Manager: Peter Murphy Asst Manager: Colin McMenamin GK Coach: Jon Connolly

GOALKEEPERS

Blair Currie Callum Law

DEFENDERS

Kyle Banner Cameron Clark James Creaney Adam Cummins Aaron Dunsmore Will Greenhorn Ross McGeachie Jordan McGregor Paul McLean

MIDFIELDERS

Harrison Clark Josh Cooper Ross Davidson Danny Denholm Jack Leitch

FORWARDS

Danny Burns Dale Carrick Kieran Moore Robert Thomson

Manager: Darren Young Ast Managers: James Creaney First Team Coach: Kevin Budinauckas

PLAYER PROFILES



GREG FLEMING

Experienced goalkeeper Greg signed for the club in the summer of 2021 after leaving Stranraer.

Manager Peter Murphy was delighted to capture the shot stopper after missing out at the start of the 2020/21 season. At 36 years of Age Greg started his career at Gretna where he made 29 league appearances before going onto represent Oldham Athletic, Chesterfield, Grimsby, Carlisle United, Stenhousemuir, Ayr United and Peterhead where he won the League two title.



ETHAN MITCHELL

Goalkeeper Ethan makes his first foray into Professional football after coming through the Celtic FC youth system.

The young goalkeeper will be looking to learn his traded from the experienced Greg Fleming and seize his opportunity when it arises.



CHARLIE BARNES

Now in his second season 20 year old Charlie joined the club in the summer of 2021 after previously coming through the youth system at Carlisle United where he was on the scholarship scheme.

The right sided defender can play at both full back and in the centre of defence.



ROAN STEELE The Carlisle born player joined the club

in the summer of 2021 after previously coming through the youth system at Carlisle United.

The right back has settled in well at the club and after an injury ruled him out he'll now be looking to catch the eye of manager Peter Murphy as he and his former colleague Charlie Barnes battle for the right back slot at the club.



STEVEN SWINGLEHURST

The left footed Central Defender is now in his 9th season at Galabank after initially joining the club on loan from Carlisle United back in January 2012.

The no nonsense defender has now made over 250 appearances in the Black and Gold scoring over 20 goals.

MATTY DOUGLAS

Defender Matty is now in his 4th season at the club and has been an ever present when fit, the pacy Centre Half is currently recovering from injury and will be looking to force his way back into the side when fully fit.

The Carlisle born player joined the club from Workington Reds where he amassed over 150 appearances over three seasons. Prior to this he was part of the Carlisle United youth system.

MAX KILSBY

The young centre half joins on loan from parent club Carlisle United. The former Newcastle United youngster will be looking to get some game time as he looks to develop and force his way into Paul Simpsons plans at Brunton Park.

JORDAN LOWDEN

Left sided defender Jordan is now in his second season at the club after spending last season with Stirling Albion. After an injury plagued first season Jordan made an impact as the club finished last season well.

He started his career at Brechin City before moving to local rivals Arbroath. After a successful spell there he moved to Clyde before joining Elgin City. It was here that he flourished as an attacking left sided player and was a constant threat with his forward runs

LEWIS HUNTER

Central midfielder Lewis is now in his second season at the club after joining from SPFL League One side East Fife. The versatile player can also play at right back started his career as a student with Lowland League side Stirling University.

CAMERON WILLIAMSON

The young centre half joins on loan from parent club Carlisle United. The former Newcastle United youngster will be looking to get some game time as he looks to develop and force his way into Paul Simpsons plans at Brunton Park.

DOMINIC DOCHERTY

Dominic joins the club after spending three season at League Two rivals Stirling

The central midfielder started his career at Partick Thistle before leaving there to spend a season at Queens Park. Manager Peter Murphy signed him up early on and will be hoping he can make a bog impact in the centre of midfield.

BENJAMIN LUSSINT



Midfielder Benjamin signs after impressing manager Peter Murphy during pre-season.

The former Queen of the South, Brechin City and Gretna 2008 has impressed with his strong running from the centre of midfield and the Annan fans will be looking to see more of this during the season.

JOSH GALLOWAY

Josh joins the club after spending the last two seasons at English Premier League side Leeds United.

The highly rated youngster made the move to Elland Road from Carlisle United after impressing in the Brunton Park youth setup. Josh is now looking to force his way into Peter Murphy's plans as he makes way in the professional game.

TONY WALLACE



Tony is now in his second spell at the club reioining after spending two season at Clyde. The popular striker can play both upfront and in midfield and is always a goal threat whether that be creating or scoring.

Tony initially started his career at Greenock Morton before spending spells at Queens Park, East Fife and Stranraer.

CHRIS JOHNSTON

Chris Johnston returns for his second spell at the club after previously leaving to join Clyde.

The 'Magician' as he's commonly know amongst his fellow player was previously at Galabank and played a starring role in the side that was narrowly defeated by Clyde in the 2018/2019 Play Off final.

The winger started his career at Kilmarnock where he represented Scotland at youth level.



Striker Rob joined the club in the summer of 2021 from Carlisle City.

The dangerous striker was prolific over the border with Carlisle City and this was attracted manager Peter Murphy to him. After a very good pre season it was clear to see that the striker had an eve for goal and it's hoped he can make an impression at the club as he makes his way into the professional ranks for the first time in his career.



AIDAN SMITH Striker Aidan who is in his second spell

at club after returning from League One Peterhead at the start of the 2020/21 season.

The lively, left sided striker started his career at Queen of the South before moving to Galabank following a successful loan spell. During his two year stint at Galabank he scored 29 goals as the club registered a Play-Off Semi Final and Final in both seasons.

TOMMY GOSS

Striker Tommy joined the club in the summer of 2021 after spending last season with Queen of The South.

The 6ft 4" striker started his career in amateur football and made the move to Palmerston after impressing at Abbey Vale where he excelled in the South of Scotland league. The big striker will be a handful for any defense on his day.

TOMMY MUIR

Striker Tommy returns to the club after spending a successful spell at Galabank from 2018-2020.

The popular forward then made the move to Stenhousemuir before spending last season at Stranraer





TODAY'S VISITORS STIRLING ALBION

Today we welcome Darren Young and his side Stirling Albion to Galabank for Matchday 4 of our cinch League Two season. Peter Murphy will be hoping his side can bounce back from last Saturdays defeat to Dumbarton.

In looking to bounce back they'll be coming up against a familiar face in 'The Binos' squad in left sided defender and familiar face Cameron Clark. Cameron made the move to Forthbank in the summer after spending three seasons at Galabank and he is one of seven new additions to the squad.



Cameron Clark

Manager Young has wasted no time in making his mark on the squad for the new season and the signing of striker Robert Thomson from Stenhousemuir is a more than ready replacement for Dylan Mackin who left to join West of Scotland side Kilwinning Rangers. Darren Young has also raided his old club East Fife to make the triple signing of Danny Denholm, Aaron Dunsmore and Ross Davidson.



Robert Thomson

Like us Stirling enjoyed a good Premier Sports TV cup campaign and whilst they didn't progress from their group they had good wins away to Dumbarton and Peterhead as well as drawing with Championship side Raith Rovers.

Their cinch League Two start seen them go down at Dumbarton in their first game but this followed up with a battling 2-2 draw at home to Elgin City after coming from two goals down. Their last outing was an extremely impressive 3-0 win against much fancied Stenhousemuir and they'll be coming to Galabank with a spring in their step.

Players In/Out

In: Josh Cooper, forward (Greenock Morton); Danny Denholm, defender (East Fife); Ross Davidson, midfielder (East Fife); Aaron Dunsmore, defender (East Fife); Robert Thomson, Striker (Stenhousemuir); Cameron Clark, defender (Annan Athletic); Danny Burns, forward (Shotts Bon Accord).

Out: Ray Grant, midfielder (Clyde); Kurtis Roberts, midfielder (Clyde); Martin McNiff, defender (Dumbarton); Nathan Flanagan, midfielder (Forfar Athletic); Marc Laird, midfielder (Civil Service Strollers); James Grant, defender (Open Goal Broomhill); Dylan Mackin, forward (Kilwinning Rangers); Akeel Francis, forward.

SPFL TRUST TROPHY R2 FIXTURE DETAILS

SPFL TRUST TROPHY R2 FIXTURE DETAILS

The draw for the SPFL Trust Trophy has drawn Annan away to Lowland League side East Kilbride. The K-Park side who are managed by our former assistant manager Kevin Rutkiewicz seen off the challenge of the Motherwell B youngsters. The tie will take place on Tuesday night at East Kilbride, 7:45pm Kick Off.

SECOND-ROUND DRAW

DATES, VENUES AND KICK-OFF TIMES CONFIRMED FOR THE GAMES ON AUGUST 23/24

NORTH SECTION

Tuesday August 23 East Fife v St Johnstone Elgin City v Stenhousemuir Forfar Athletic v Kelty Hearts Wednesday August 24 Brechin City v Stirling Albion Buckie Thistle v Brora Rangers

SOUTH SECTION

Tuesday August 23 East Kilbride v Annan Athletic

Kilmarnock B v East Stirlingshire Rangers B v Dumbarton Wednesday August 24 Celtic B v Livingston B FC Edinburgh v Stranraer Locality Hub Bayview Stadium, 7.45pm Borough Briggs, 7.45pm Station Park, 7.45pm

Glebe Park, 7.45pm Victoria Park, 8.00pm

K-Park, 7.45pm BBSP Stadium, Rugby Park, 7.45pm Dumbarton Football Stadium, 7.45pm

Excelsior Stadium, 7.45pm Meadowbank Stadium, 7.45pm

In the event of a draw after 90 minutes, matches will be decided by a penalty shoot-out Date for third round: Weekend of September 24/25

FIRST-ROUND RESULTS

NORTH SECTION

Tuesday August 9 Brora Rangers 2-0 Aberdeen B Elgin City 1-0 Dundee United B Fraserburgh 0-2 St Johnstone B Wednesday August 10 Heart of Midlothian B 2-3 Buckie Thistle Hibernian B 1-1 Brechin City (Brechin City won 4-1 on penalties)

SOUTH SECTION

Tuesday August 9 Albion Rovers 2-3 Celtic B Bonnyrigg Rose Athletic 0-0 Livingston B (Livingston B won 3-1 on pens) Kilmarnock B 3-0 Cowdenbeath Motherwell B 1-2 East Kilbride St Mirren B 0-0 East Stirlingshire (East Stirlingshire won 4-2 on pens) Wednesday August 10 Spartans 0-1 Rangers B



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llian Rooney

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SPFL News



SPFL IN NEW SKY TV DEAL NEGOTIATIONS

In a new approach to the Income Stream Model for Scottish Football the Scottish Premiership clubs have come together to set a plan that would hopefully drive the SPFL's annual distributable income to £50m by 2029.

A Deloitte report was initially commissioned by Dundee, Dundee United, Hearts, Hibs and Aberdeen and this was discussed by the SPFL in December. Following further recommendations by the working group then the involvement of Celtic and Rangers the clubs have managed to gain broad support for the proposal.

Currently the SPFL distributes £28.4m a year to its member clubs through its current distribution model. As we break that figure down in real terms it translates to 0.2% being distributed to clubs in League 2.

As well as the SKY deal the BBC currently has a deal for radio commentary, Premiership TV highlights and live Championship TV games, while Premier Sports screen live Scottish League Cup matches.

RANK ROUTERS

So What Do They Hope To Achieve?

The clubs proposal would aim to move the SPFL to a more robust dynamic commercial structure. The belief is that the SPFL is largely an administrative function and this change would give more focus to the commercial needs of the brand.

Talks are looking to extend the current Sky Broadcasting contract to 2029, currently this deal runs out in 2025 and any extension would provide further security to the SPFL member clubs.

The introduction of PPV is also on the table as clubs in the lower leagues look to build on the audiences built during the Covid pandemic. Currently clubs like Annan are unable to broadcast on a Saturday at 3PM due to the terms currently included in the current SKY deal. The deal is very prohibitive to the lower league clubs in relation to these revenue streams and this is has been recognised during the talks.

Talking about the deal Hibs chairman Ron Gordon has been speaking about this and he said: "The Deloitte report said Scottish football was marginally undervalued. We are in conversations with Sky on the resetting of our deal, a much more comprehensive relationship that involves the women's game, more games, carving out some pay-per-view, and a secondary package.

"What's on the table right now has got promotional and commercial partnerships we sell together, promotional elements for Sky and for the league, an investment in more and better content.

"On a per-game basis, we are very well compensated right now. But we have very few games. We have 48 games and they don't even take all 48. Out of 218 games, that leaves a lot of games which are not out there. "In this conversation with Sky, we've tried to have more games but protect the gate - we want our stadiums to be full."

Gordon also discussed the need to improve the brand image and attractiveness of the league to potential investors.

"We're looking to create product that has more to offer a commercial partner," he added. "Many brands in the UK that are in football are not in Scottish football.

"We want to double our commercial revenue from £4m to almost £8m. The women's game really gives us an opportunity to grow brand new revenues because nothing has existed. What we're looking at with broadcasting alone - that we're in discussions on right now - could be £2.5m or more over the next five-seven years.

"The other key elements are strengthening the brand of the league. There's been a lot of bad blood, people have been cynical about the league, but Scottish football does a lot more good than bad. Every club is a difference-maker in its community and it's a passion point in Scotland. It's very, very real.

"We should harness all the good football does and create a brand that is very positive. Good brands want to associate with good brands. The branding of the league is an important thing we all need to get behind."

SPFL chief executive Neil Doncaster thanked Aberdeen, the Old Firm and the Dundee and Edinburgh clubs for "their valuable work" and added: "It is an exciting time for the game."



SWPL Comes Under The SPFL

In an effort to drive further improvements in the Womens game the SWPL1 and 2 divisions will compete under the SPFL, bringing all football under the one organisation.

In an effort to showcase and promote the game further BBC Alba will increase the number of live games it broadcasts from six to 26, while BBC Scotland will show an extended 45 minute highlights programme each week. It will also have the option to stream one live game each weekend.

"The ongoing partnership with both BBC ALBA and BBC Scotland will be vital in growing the game in this country in the coming years, and their long-term support of the women's game is truly appreciated," said Fiona McIntyre, SWPL managing director.

"This significant new agreement represents the growth and ambition we have for the League. It was a really exciting opening weekend of the SWPL season, and we know that viewers will be in for a treat for the rest of the season."

"We're delighted that we're increasing coverage of Scottish women's football over the next three years," added Louise Thornton, senior head of multi-platform commissioning at BBC Scotland. "Adding more highlights and live streams will significantly enhance our offering to audiences at an exciting time for the game in Scotland. We're looking forward to working in partnership with BBC ALBA to deliver more free-to-air coverage of the SWPL."

Fixtures 22/23



SUBSTITUTES

JULY																					
Saturday 9 July	Queen of the South	W3-2	A Premier Sports Cup GS	Mitchell	Barnes	Williamson	Docherty	Hooper	Swinglehurst	Wallace	Luissint	Galloway	Goss	Johnston	Connolly	Lowdon	Steele	Hunter	Smith	Muir	
Tuesday 12 July	St Johnstone		A Premier Sports Cup GS	Fleming	Barnes	Lowdon	Hunter	Hooper	Swinglehurst	Wallace	Docherty	Smith	Muir	Johnston	Mitchell	Williamson	Steele	Luissint	Galloway	Goss	McCartney
Saturday 16 July	Elgin City		H Premier Sports Cup GS	Fleming	Steele	Williamson	Docherty	Barnes	Hooper	Smith	Luissint	Muir	Goss	Galloway	Mitchell	Lowdon	Swinglehurst	Wallace	Johnston	McCartney	modulatoy
Tuesday 19 July	Ayr United		H Premier Sports Cup GS	Fleming	Barnes	Lowdon	Hunter	Hooper	Swinglehurst	Wallace	Docherty	Smith	Goss	Johnston	Mitchell	Williamson	Steele	Luissint	Galloway	Muir	
Saturday 30 July	Stranraer		A cinch League 2	Fleming	Barnes	Williamson	Hunter	Hooper	Kilsby	Galloway	Docherty	Smith	Goss	Johnston	Mitchell	Lowdon	Steele	Swinglehurst	Luissint	Wallace	Muir
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Saturday 6 August	Stenhousemuir	W 2-1	H cinch League 2	Fleming	Barnes	Lowdon	Docherty	Hooper	Swinglehurst	Wallace	Hunter	Smith	Goss	Luissint	Mitchell	Kilsby	Williamson	Muir	Galloway	Steele	
Saturday 13 August	Dumbarton		A cinch League 2	Fleming	Steele	Lowdon	Hooper	Swinglehurst	Hunter	Wallace	Docherty	Smith	Goss	Luissint	Mitchell	Kilsby	Williamson	Muir	Johnston	McCartney	
Saturday 10 August	Stirling Albion		H cinch League 2	rioning	010010	LOWDON	пооры	ownigionulat	nuntoi	Wallaco	Doonorty	omun	0033	Luidaint	WILCHON	Rildby	williamouri	Muli	Juliliatuli	wooditrity	
Tuesday 24 August	East Kilbride		A SPFL Trust Trophy R2																		
Saturday 27 August	Albion Rovers		A cinch League 2																		
Tuesday 30 August	Aberdeen		H Premier Sports Cup R2																		
SEPTEN																					
Saturday 3 September			H cinch League 2																		
	Bonnyrigg Rose Athletic		A cinch League 2																		
Saturday 17 September			H cinch League 2																		
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Saturday 1 October	Elgin City		A cinch League 2																		
Saturday 8 October	Stenhousemuir		A cinch League 2																		
Saturday 15 October	Stranraer		H cinch League 2																		
	Dumbarton		H cinch League 2																		
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Saturday 5 November			A cinch League 2																		
Saturday 12 November			A cinch League 2																		
Saturday 19 November	-		H cinch League 2																		
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Saturday 3 December	East Fife		A cinch League 2																		
Monday 17 December	Bonnyrigg Rose Athletic	c	H cinch League 2																		
Saturday 24 December	Albion Rovers		H cinch League 2																		
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Tuesday 2 January	Stranraer		A cinch League 2																		
Saturday 7 January	Forfar Athletic		H cinch League 2																		
Saturday 14 January	Elgin City		A cinch League 2																		
Saturday 28 January	East Fife		H cinch League 2																		
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Saturday 4 February	Bonnyrigg Rose Athletic		A cinch League 2																		
Saturday 11 February	Dumbarton		A cinch League 2																		
Saturday 18 February	Stirling Albion		H cinch League 2																		
Saturday 25 February			A cinch League 2																		
MARCH																					
Saturday 4 March	Stenhousemuir		H cinch League 2																		
Saturday 11 March	Elgin City		H cinch League 2																		
Saturday 18 March	Forfar Athletic		A cinch League 2																		
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Saturday 15 April	Albion Rovers		H cinch League 2																		
Saturday 22 April	Stirling Albion		A cinch League 2																		
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There are still places available in our recently formed Platinum club, but remember the draw only has 200 places so don't miss out.

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UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT POLICY

This statement is designed to provide clear information to all officials, employees, shareholders, home and visiting supporters and indeed anyone who exercises a function for or who has a connection with Annan Athletic Community Football Club Limited ("the Club") as to the Club's attitude and approach to the question of unacceptable conduct.

The Club fully accepts that football is a game of passion. It readily encourages supporters to express their support and add to the enjoyment of the game. The Club will not however tolerate and indeed condemns any form of unacceptable conduct at its Home Ground or at Away Grounds by its supporters. Such unacceptable conduct includes the following:-

Any violent or disorderly conduct, including any actual, attempted or threatened physical violence against a person or persons; Any intentional damage to property; Any racist, sectarian or defamatory abuse; Any abuse relating to sexual orientation, transgender identity, physical or mental disability;

Any anti-social behaviour;

Any throwing of articles in the ground or its surroundings;

The Club reserves the right to take appropriate action if it is suspected that a person seeking entry to the ground is in possession of any article, e.g., flags, banners, and the like which may contain offensive or unacceptable material, flares, fireworks and devices capable of emitting smoke or the like which may cause or be part of an incident of unacceptable conduct.

The Club reserves the right to have such a person searched - those entering the Home Ground are deemed as per the Club's Ground Entry Conditions to have agreed to be subject to such search procedures, and any such articles found during such a search will be removed and delivered to the Match Commander or Safety Officer. Any such person refusing to be searched will be denied access to the ground and any season ticket or ticket shall be liable to confiscation without compensation and further proportionate action as determined by the Club may follow.

The Club will ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, the good order, security and safety of all whether players, supporters, officials, who attend the Home Games.

It will further ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, that its players, officials, supporters and anyone exercising any function relating to the Club do not engage in any Unacceptable Conduct.

The Club will ensure the safe passage of those who require access to the tunnel area and hereby state that it will be the decision of the Safety Officer as to who is allowed in that area. Dissention from a decision of the Safety Officer may be deemed as unacceptable conduct.

The Club will co-operate with Match Officials, match stewards and Police Scotland in relation to any alleged incident of unacceptable behaviour.

Any individual convicted of a football related offence or, who is found by the Board of the Club to have committed a serious breach of this policy, will be subject to appropriate action by the Club which may include a ban from the ground and/ or confiscation, without compensation, of any Season Ticket held by that individual.

The Club expects that its fans will fully support this policy and assist the club in tackling any Unacceptable Conduct issues in a proactive manner

During the current pandemic, the Club requires all players, Directors and the management team as well as Supporters and any clubs visiting Galabank to comply with the Club's protocols to combat the threat of the Coronavirus. This would also be the case if there were ever protocols introduced to deal with another pandemic.

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MATCH PHOTOS Annan Athletic 2 Stenhousemuir 1



JF Frittend Enge **Joe Saunders** is a Freelance Sports and Events Photographer based in SW Scotland and is part of the Media Team at Annan Athletic

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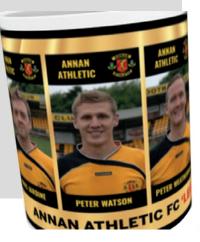
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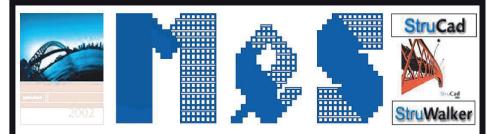


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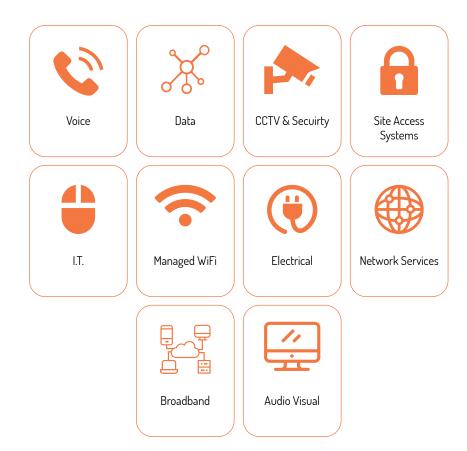
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